

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 010235

55

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SSO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 INR-10

INRE-00 NEA-10 DRC-01 RSC-01 /078 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:BAFLATIN:LCB

APPROVED BY EUR:WSTABLER

EUR/CE:NCLEDSKY

S/S-S:GFWARD

S/S:WHLUERS

----- 124996

O 170018Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 010235

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AU

SUBJECT: LETTER TO CHANCELLOR KREISKY FROM THE PRESIDENT

REF: TRINKA - FLATIN TELECON OF 16 JANUARY 1974

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF A LETTER, DATED DECEMBER 15, 1973, FROM THE PRESIDENT TO CHANCELLOR KREISKY WHICH THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE (THE SECRETARIAT IS TRANSMITTING THE SIGNED ORIGINAL VIA AIR POUCH):

BEGIN QUOTE:

DEAR MR. CHANCELLOR:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF OCTOBER 25, CONCERNING THE TERRORIST INCIDENT AT MARCHEGG IN LATE SEPTEMBER AND THE RELATED SUBJECT OF CONTINUED JEWISH EMIGRATION THROUGH AUSTRIA.

I COMMEND THE GENEROUS UNDERSTANDING AND HOSPITALITY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 010235

DISPLAYED BY AUSTRIA IN PERMITTING EMIGRANTS FROM THE

SOVIET UNION AND OTHER COUNTRIES TO CONTINUE TO UTILIZE YOUR TRANSIT AND TRANSFER FACILITIES. THESE PEOPLE, MOST OF WHOM ARE EMBARKING UPON THE GREATEST UNDERTAKING OF THEIR LIVES, NEED REST, ORGANIZATION AND COUNSELING BEFORE CONTINUING THEIR JOURNEY FROM AUSTRIA TO NEW HOMES ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD. IN THIS CONNECTION, I AM PARTICULARLY GRATIFIED THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO ESTABLISH A NEW TRANSIT ASSISTANCE FACILITY AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE FACILITY AT SCHOENAU CASTLE.

IT IS VERY HELPFUL TO HAVE YOUR DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO THE SAD EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 28-29. IT IS BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE I KNOW WE BOTH ATTACH TO THE VERY GRAVE PROBLEM OF TERRORISM THAT I WISH TO SHARE WITH YOU IN ALL CANDOR THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS. AS YOU KNOW FROM THE REMARKS I MADE TO THE U.S. PRESS AT THE TIME, I REALIZE THE GREAT DIFFICULTIES YOU FACED IN REACHING A DECISION TO CLOSE SCHOENAU CASTLE. HOWEVER, I MUST REGRETFULLY EXPRESS THE BELIEF THAT CONCESSION IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES CAN ONLY ENCOURAGE FURTHER VIOLENCE AND EVEN GREATER DEMANDS.

WHILE THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE PLEASED, INDEED, IF A MULTILATERAL SOLUTION TO THE TERRORIST PROBLEM COULD BE FOUND, WE BELIEVE THAT TERRORIST CHALLENGES MUST BE MET FORTHRIGHTLY AND FIRMLY BY THE STATES DIRECTLY INVOLVED IF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS TO BE FREE OF THIS SCOURGE.

AGAIN, YOUR LETTER IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

SINCERELY YOURS,

(S)RICHARD NIXON

HIS EXCELLENCY
BRUNO KREISKY
CHANCELLOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 010235

VIENNA
END QUOTE

2. FYI: THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER IS IN REPLY TO A RATHER LENGTHY LETTER OF OCTOBER 25, 1973, FROM KREISKY CONCERNING THE SCHOENAU MATTER, THE TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE:

MR. PRESIDENT

THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 28TH AND 29TH, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH TWO ARAB TERRORISTS CAPTURED A NUMBER OF HOSTAGES AND TRIED TO ESCAPE WITH THEM FROM AUSTRIA, HAVE CAUSED CONSIDERABLE INTERNATIONAL REVERBERATIONS. THE ATTACK WAS WARDED OFF WITHOUT BLOODSHED, AND THE HOSTAGES WERE SET FREE.

THE MEASURES THAT WERE TAKEN BY THE AUSTRIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TOWARD THIS END HAVE GIVEN RISE TO SOME MISINTERPRETATIONS ABROAD. DUE TO THE NATURE OF THE EVENTS, AN OBJECTIVE EVALUATION OF THESE MEASURES IS ONLY POSSIBLE ON THE BASIS OF A THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF THE SURROUNDING CIRCUMSTANCES AS WELL AS THE OCCURRENCES DURING THE PAST MONTHS.

IN THE ATTEMPT TO BRING ABOUT A CORRECT EVALUATION OF THE AUSTRIAN POSTURE, AND HOPING TO COUNTER WITH FACTUAL ARGUMENTS THE CRITICISM FROM SOME QUARTERS, A CRITICISM WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT IS NOT ALTOGETHER JUSTIFIED, I TAKE THE LIBERTY OF BRINGING CERTAIN ESSENTIAL ASPECTS TO YOUR ATTENTION:

1. SINCE 1960, AUSTRIA HAS BEEN THE GATEWAY FOR ABOUT 164,000 PERSONS FROM EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN TRANSIT TO ISRAEL. I TAKE THE LIBERTY OF ENCLOSING A TABLE ILLUSTRATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS TRANSIT OVER THE YEARS. MAY I DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE PEAKS OF THIS MIGRATION WERE

RE

E E E E E E E

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JEWS, REFUGEES, PARAMILITARY FORCES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, EMIGRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE010235
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BAFLATIN:LCB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740134/aaaabghg.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TRINKA - FLATIN TELECON OF 16 JANUAR, Y 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <11 APR 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER TO CHANCELLOR KREISKY FROM THE PRESIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, AU
To: VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005